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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/733,352	12/08/2000	Kirk P. Bumgarner	SP00-038	2858
22928	7590	01/14/2004	EXAMINER	
CORNING INCORPORATED				HOFFMANN, JOHN M
SP-TI-3-1				ART UNIT
CORNING, NY 14831				PAPER NUMBER
				1731

DATE MAILED: 01/14/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	09/733,352	BUMGARNER ET AL. 
	Examiner	Art Unit
	John Hoffmann	1731

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 18 December 2003.

2a) This action is **FINAL**. 2b) This action is non-final.

3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 1-30 and 33-37 is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6) Claim(s) 1-30 and 33-37 is/are rejected.

7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a) All b) Some * c) None of:

1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

13) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application) since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.

a) The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.

14) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121 since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.

Attachment(s)

1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____.

4) Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s) _____.

5) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)

6) Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

Claims 1, 13-16, 20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Knowles 4148218.

The invention is disclosed at col. 2, lines 28-48. The clutch mechanically monitors the tension. When the tension becomes sufficiently large, the clutch reduces the speed of the capstan by permitting slippage in the clutch. See McKay 4601208 (col. 1, lines 31-50) which discloses that this is what happens). It is noted that the claims do not require the tension be measured: in applicant's embodiment, the load cell would detect a force equal to twice the tension. The fiber around Applicant's wheel 22 would have

Claims 13-14 are clearly met.

Claim 15: It is noted that the term "load cell" is not defined in the specification. Also, examiner did not find any mention of any particular load cell used. In fact, the drawings do not appear to show a load cell. Furthermore, Examiner could not find a definition for "cell" in a dictionary that would encompass Applicant's invention, but not the Knowles clutch. Since Applicant's cell and Knowles serve the same function (i.e. monitor tension so as to maintain tension) it is deemed that Knowles clutch is a "load cell". Alternatively: 29 is the load cell which monitors the tension - the claim is open to the tension being monitored by two different things.

Claim 16: 33 of figure 2 of Knowles is the pulley which is connected (via 11) to the load cell. The fiber contact causes the pulley to rotate because the pulley is an idler wheel (col.3, line16).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

Claims 2-3, 11, 17-19, 21-22, 36-37 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Knowles 4148218.

Claim 2: it would have been obvious to draw the fiber as fast as possible so as to make as much fiber as fast as possible.

Claims 3, 21-22: it would have been obvious to make the fiber as strong as strong as possible and to proof test it to the high strength level.

Claim 11: a fiber is suppose to conduct light. IT would have been obvious to make sure that the fiber conducts light through its entire length.

Claims 18-19, 36-37: it would have been obvious to have as much or as little fiber on the spool as desired.

Claim 23: it would have been obvious to sell the spool of fiber to make money. It would have been further obvious to ship it to the buyers so that they don't have to personally pick it up.

Claim 17: There is no disclosure of using a computer. It would have been obvious to have all of the features being connected and/or controlled by a computer so as to easily monitor the process variables, and to store the data so that one can go back and review what went wrong and what went right.

Claims 4-12, 23-30, 33-35 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Knowles as applied to claims 1-3, 11,18-19, 21-23 above, and further in view of Bice 5787216.

KNowles does not disclose the ends being accessed or the optical testing. Bice, starting at col. 1 , line 26, discloses that one of the most important tests is OTDR which requires that the fiber be such that light travels from one end of the fiber (and back'?) This requires that the light be accessible to both ends of the fiber', because it must travel to the second end if it is to reflect back from that end. The other end can be accessed by light. It would have been obvious to perform OTDR on the Knowles fiber, because it is one of the "most important" tests to make sure the fiber is not damaged.

Claim 5: it would have been obvious to sell the spool of fiber to make money. It would have been further obvious to ship it to the buyers so that they don't have to personally pick it up. This can also be applied to claim 12

The limitations of claims 23-30, 33-35 would have been obvious for the reasons given above.

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to John Hoffmann whose telephone number is (571) 272 1191. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday, 7:00- 3:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Steve Griffin can be reached on 571-272-1189. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 571-272-1700.

John Hoffmann
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 1731

1-8-04

jmh